

Benedetto served ten years in the penitentiary of this state for burning a warehouse at Petaluma. After his release he went to Italy, where he was imprisoned with Benedetto Tordini, an Italian anarchist, who is to be sent home to Italy in order of the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

went to Italy, where he was imprisoned for carrying concealed weapons. When released he returned to Petaluma with the avowed purpose of murdering the officers who had arrested him for arson. He had been confined in the jail at Santa Rosa for several months. He openly declared himself to be an anarchist, and said in answer to a question that he would soon kill the President of the United States as any other man.

ANOTHER CHINESE COMMISSION.
Arrived to Study American Politics and Trade.
PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., February 28.—The steamship *Dakota*, which arrived at this port last night from the orient, brought a second Chinese commission to this country to study political and trade conditions. It includes thirty-nine persons headed by Prince Tsai Tai of the royal Manchurian household, the first cousin of the emperor. Two other high dignitaries in the party are Shue Tsu Chi and

The three chief members of the party will not only investigate conditions in the United States, but will take up similar studies in Great Britain, France and Belgium. Their investigations in this country will only be preliminary, and the nature of the actual investigation of affairs in the United States has been delegated to the two royal commissioners who arrived in this country some time ago. Included in the Imperial Commission are representatives of the highest culture in the orient, in the party being

lawyers, doctors, teachers, artists, musicians and merchants of the highest standing.

According to the itinerary arranged for the commission, Port Townsend, Seattle, St. Paul and New York are the only stops the delegation will make in this country.

THE PACKERS' HEARING.

Court Declined to Admit Certain Letters as Evidence.

CHICAGO, February 28.—Judge Humphrey, presiding in the packers' case, today declined to admit as evidence the correspondence that passed between Commissioner

Donner Garfield and Special Agent Durand, while Durand was investigating the beekeeping industry in Chicago. The court held that anything in the evidence was sufficient to establish the truth of the package in the hands of the witness, but that the writers were not competent to give evidence, and would not be competent.

The court also urged the attorneys to call the efforts in the conduct of the case, and expressed the hope that "this case will not be a precedent."

Special Agent Durand, who again took the witness stand, spent a great part of the day in the identification of letters.

Alleged Newspaper Attacks.

After identifying a large mass of correspondence, Mr. Durand was asked concerning a conversation with Arthur Meeker, general superintendent of Armour & Co., and Mr. Meeker professed to have, according to the witness, no knowledge of the export of the witness, anxious to have the export of the bureau of corporations published as a "Mr. Meeker," declared the witness.

said that the packers were suffering from newspaper attacks to the effect that the government agents had discovered a combination. Mr. Meeker said further the report of the bureau would dispel this. Mr. Garfield and myself were asked by Mr. Meeker if any evidence of a combination had been discovered. Mr. Garfield replied that evidence had come to our notice tending to show that there was a combination. Mr. Meeker replied that this might appear from the action of over-zealous employees

Who might do things not in accord with the orders of their superior officers. At this time, or later, perhaps, Mr. Meeker said that he was willing to take his oath that there was no combination between the packers. Mr. Meeker also protested against a public hearing because of the sensational reports which might result."

BEGINNING OF LENT.

Ash Wednesday Services Held in Local Churches Today.

Masses at the hours of 6, 7, 8:15 and 10 o'clock this morning were celebrated in the Roman Catholic churches of this city in observance of the first day of the Lenten season—Ash Wednesday. At each service ashes of palms blessed on Palm Sunday of last year were distributed and placed upon the foreheads of the church members in token of their humility. Services will be held in many of the Catholic churches this evening. At St. Patrick's, 10th and U

streets, at 7:30 o'clock Rev. Dr. D. J. Sjaastad, pastor, will deliver the first of a series of lectures on "Explanations of the Bible" for each Wednesday evening during the Lent. There will also be another series of lectures in the Protestant Episcopal churches at the usual hour today. Many of the churches will have special services to accommodate the busy people of their communities.

Arrangements have been made by the Episcopal Church in this diocese, to present the twelfth annual course of Lenten lectures, which will be given during the period between the 31st and 14th instants, each Tuesday of the penitential season at 8 o'clock p.m. The general subject will be "Aspects of the Bible." The first lecture will be given on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

The program for the lectures is as follows: March 6, "The Layman in the Church," Rev. Frederick J. Kinsman, professor of ecclesiastical history in the General Theological Seminary, New York city;

music by Epiphany choir. March 18. "The Church and Charitable Relief." Rev. Grosvenor, D. D., rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, New York city; music by John's choir (Lafayette square). March 20. "The Missionary Work of the Church." Rev. W. T. Manning, D. D., assistant rector of Trinity parish, New York city; music by St. John's choir, Georgetown. March 27. "The Revival of Community Life." Rev. Hamilton Schellie, rector of Trinity Church, Trenton, N. J.; music by St. Mark's choir. April 3. "The Ministry of Women." Right Rev. Leighton Coleman,

D. D., LL. D., bishop of Delaware.; music by St. Stephen's choir.

IRON, STEEL AND TIN WORKERS.

Important Matters to Come Up at Annual Meeting,

PITTSBURG, Pa., February 28.—Notices have been sent out by the Amalgamated

Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers and to all sublodges notifying them that the annual convention will open at Cincinnati May 1 and requesting them to send resolu-

An important matter to be taken up at the annual meeting, aside from the wage scale, will be the unionizing of the eastern

The officials claim that a majority of the men in the eastern district are now members of the association, but they are still working without an agreement. An effort

will be made, it is said, to induce the manufacturers to sign the scale this year.

Griggs and Flood Candidates.

Representative Griggs of Georgia and Representative Flood of Virginia will probably be the most important candidates for the chairmanship of the democratic congressional campaign committee at the meet-

ing of the committee next Tuesday. Mr. Griggs has served twice before, while Mr. Flood has not seen service outside of Virginia. It is understood that the senatorial representation of nine votes is pledged to Mr. Flood, but Mr. Griggs has the support of a considerable number of House mem-

Proposed Repeal Tabled.
The House committee on public lands voted today to lay on the table the bill

for the repeal of the timber and stone act